



CALPEEK

CALIFORNIA POLITICAL WEEK

P.O. BOX 1468, BEVERLY HILLS, CA 90213
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(310) 659-0205

MAY 17, 1993

VOL. XV
No. 20

L.A. MAYOR'S RACE: SOME HOT POLITICAL ITEMS.

Editor's note: Here are a few brief items about the upcoming June 8th L.A. Mayor's runoff, including some new polling data...

● **New L.A. Times Poll** - It's not a big shock. It shows businessman Richard Riordan holding a 7 point lead over Councilman Michael Woo, 44% to 37%, with a little more than 18% undecided --- this among *high propensity/likely voters*. Among all voters, Woo has a 45% to 39% lead --- but this figure doesn't mean as much because the turnout won't be that heavy. In order for Woo to pull ahead, he has to either: A) cut substantially into Riordan's base; or B) make sure voter turnout among his core supporters raises dramatically -- and most CALPEEK sources don't think this will happen. The poll was taken May 4-8, among 1,048 voters (409 high propensity). Margin of error is 6 pts...

● **The Endorsement Game** - Lots of news here. L.A. Co. Sup. Gloria Molina has endorsed Woo and that's a big plus for his campaign and helps to offset the endorsement Riordan got from Stan Sanders about a week ago. But it's been Riordan who has gotten some of the more significant (although less well publicized) endorsements --- Ed Sanders and Stan Hirsch, both big name Demos who are highly regarded in L.A.'s Jewish community have endorsed Riordan. And on May 12, Riordan/Woo primary rival, Councilman Joel Wachs, also endorsed Riordan. Riordan also was endorsed by another primary rival, Nick Patsaouras...

● **Will AG Move on Illegal Endorsement of Woo by CDP??** - Although it's not high profile felony crime, the fact remains that the CA Demo Party's official endorsement of L.A. mayor candidate Michael Woo was an illegal act, even though there are no criminal statutes on the books. A provision in the CA Constitution says State political parties may not endorse in **non-partisan**

elections. This provision in the State Constitution was upheld not long ago by the U.S. Supreme Court. So what's being done? Is AG Dan Lungren aware of this endorsement and what does he plan to do about it? Sources tell CALPEEK the AG is aware of the CDP's actions, but the AG has **not** been asked to get involved. Traditionally, the AG leaves a case like this to the local DA. CALPEEK sources say L.A. Co. DA Gil Garcetti also is aware of the situation (and his staff has even read the U.S. Supreme Court case), but since it is not a felony and there are no statutes on the books dealing with this type of case, the L.A. Co. DA will **not** get involved. So it appears that if there's to be any legal action, it will have to be done by AG Dan Lungren. Will Lungren act, or will he leave this hot political potato alone??? Stay tuned...

ANOTHER CALIF. BUDGET CRISIS LOOMS AS CITIES AND COUNTIES BATTLE GOV. WILSON OVER FUNDS.

Editor's note: CA Gov. Pete Wilson(R) is once again heading into troubled waters as another *budget crisis* looms on the Sacramento horizon. The Finance Dept. is due to issue another budget revision in the very near future and CALPEEK sources think the **budget gap** will be about \$8.6 billion in the red for the 1993-94 budget year. Here's our update & analysis...

...Why is Gov. Wilson once again headed for trouble?? Two reasons: 1) he has proposed that the \$2.6 billion in Prop. 13 bail out funds which now go to cities and counties be **taken away** and plowed back into the general fund to be used to keep education funding at current levels; and 2) he has refused to extend for another year the 1/2 cent sales tax that was imposed a few years back. This sales tax would bring in about \$1.4 billion if allowed to stay in place...

...Taken together, both these decisions spell **massive**
{Continued Next Page}

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TROUBLE for cities and counties. Some counties, such as San Joaquin, in anticipation of huge revenue shortfalls, have already begun to cut services. County DA John Phillips is now refusing to prosecute misdemeanor cases and L.A. Co. Sheriff Sherman Block, a longtime Wilson ally, plans to lay off some 1,700 sworn deputies if a 25% cut is ordered by county supes. The same situation is happening in the other 56 counties...

...And Wilson's verbal response to these cuts in local service isn't winning him new friends and allies. Some sources describe his recent tirade aimed at local elected officials as another example of Wilsonitis or "open mouth - insert foot" disease. The more charitable view is that his remarks were "undiplomatic." He told reporters local elected leaders aren't doing their jobs if they don't let the people decide whether or not they want to increase taxes at the local level to fund the services that are now provided...

...There are two ways to view Wilson's statement: 1) he's either double talking --- saying in one breath that he's doing away with the 1/2 cent sales tax at the State level, but with the next breath is telling county supes to add it right back at the local level (the view here is that a tax is a tax...); or 2) he's right --- local elected officials are gutless wonders who are afraid to take the political heat for having to raise taxes...

...Of course, raising local taxes is difficult at best and then there's the age old question of what does it take to pass a sales tax hike? A **2/3rds** vote or a **simple majority**. Believe it or not, there is even a third school of legal opinion which says that local elected officials have the right to raise taxes **without a vote**. Bottom-line: some of CALPEEK'S more pessimistic sources think there's a fair chance Californians will see a repeat of 1992 budget brouhaha. Others aren't sure what to expect. On May 19, the Assn. of Bay Area Govts. (ABAG) has called for a mass "siege of Sacto" to protest the proposed cuts to local government. Stay tuned...

MILAN PANIC TO DISCUSS "BALKAN POWDER KEG."

Orange Co. businessman Milan Panic, who was the former Prime Minister of Yugoslavia, will discuss the Balkan situation, 5:15 p.m., May 26, Grand Ballroom, Hilton Hotel, S.F. This event is co-sponsored by the Commonwealth Club of CA and the World Affairs Council. For info, (415)597-6705...

CARD CLUB MADNESS: SEASIDE TO VOTE ON CLUB

Editor's note: According to our latest count, there are now 5 cities which will hold special elections on June 8 to decide whether or not to permit **card clubs** in their jurisdictions. Seaside in Monterey Co. is one of the five cities. Here's our brief report & update...

- The **City of Seaside**, population 39,000, is in big economic trouble. With cuts coming from the State and the closure of Ft. Ord, it's estimated that unemployment in the area is running about 30%. Should the Defense Language Institute go back on the base closing hit list in July, unemployment could jump to 45%. With this in mind, the city council placed Measure D on a special election ballot for June 8. The proponents are the president and exec. director of the Seaside/Sand City Chamber of Commerce, Jackie Hill & Jackie Morganfield, respectively. Their proposal would allow the city to license one club with 35-45 tables --- which might bring in about \$1.6 million to the city each year. While there is opposition, some think this measure will be approved because the opponents are *not* well funded...

- **Follow-Up on West Hollywood.** In last week's CALPEEK, we noted that many residents felt the first NO on D hit mailer aimed at preventing an existing card club from expanded to a new location in this upscale city, went overboard and was downright anti-Asian and very "racist." Even the NO on D folks in West Hollywood were shocked and denounced the mailer, which focused on Asian card games and crime. Who was behind it?? You couldn't really tell from the mailer, but Bicycle Club general mgr. George Hardie was probably the key backer, this according to Michael Triggs, who seems to be in charge of one part of the NO campaign. Triggs, in an interview in the L.A. Times, said he approved the hit piece but claims he did not see the *final version* of the mailer. Triggs said he fired the San Diego campaign consultant who produced the mailer. Consultant John Kern had no comment. While this publicity has hurt the NO on D campaign, at the same time, it has awakened a sleepy West Hollywood to this issue. Are the YES on D folks happy about this turn of events? No, because they wanted to keep the campaign low keyed; the theory being that in a low turnout election, #D might slip by. Stay tuned...

BIG NAME DEMOS TO ATTEND RFK CONF. MAY 22.

CA U.S. Sens. Dianne Feinstein and Barbara Boxer are just two of the Demo elected officials scheduled to take part in a day-long conference May 22 marking the 25th anniversary of Robert Kennedy's death. The conference at Hancock Auditorium on the campus of USC begins at 9 a.m. with opening remarks by Mayor Tom Bradley and concludes around 5 p.m. The event is co-sponsored by USC and the Robt. F. Kennedy Human Rights Foundation, under the direction of Kerry Kennedy Cuomo. Keynote speaker is Eli Segal, asst. to Pres. Bill Clinton. Cost is \$35. For info, Les Guthman (213)465-8110 ext. 310...

L.A. MUNI ELECTION: COUNCIL RACES HEATING UP.

Editor's note: There are 4 runoff contests for the L.A. City Council on June 8. Most of the action that's been reported is on the **endorsement front**. Here's a brief update...

- **3rd District** - Caught napping or cat napping. Whatever the case, a KCAL-TV news camera crew videotaped Councilwoman Joy Picus dozing at a council meeting in chambers. She denies it, but the video footage made the news at 8 and 10 p.m. on May 10 and it sure looks like Joy was catching a few zzz's. Neutral sources who saw the footage described it as "politically devastating." Challenger Laura Chick is picking up the pace of her attacks on Picus and has grabbed the endorsement of Dennis Zine, who finished 3rd in the primary. Although it's tough to knock off an incumbent, sources think Chick has a good shot at winning this race...

- **7th District** - In this open seat, frontrunner Lyle Hall has won the endorsement of primary rivals Anne Finn, Henry Villafana and Rose Castaneda. Sources say Hall will also get an endorsement from Al Dib. Hall's chief rival is Richard Alarcon...

- **13th District** - In this open seat, Tom LaBonge has won the endorsement of primary rivals Tom Riley and Virginia Johannessen. In addition, LaBonge has been endorsed by write-in candidate Efrim Mameria. No word on what endorsements have been picked up by Jackie Goldberg. FYI: Although LaBonge sources claim they are getting help from backers of Michael Weinstein, who finished 4th, Weinstein has remained neutral --- so far...

- **15th District** - Incumbent Joan Flores hasn't picked up any endorsements from her primary challengers, but her campaign has released the results of a survey done by pollster Arnold Steinberg & Assoc. It shows if the election were held now, Flores would defeat businessman Rudy Svorinich by a margin of 52.9% to 37.4%, with 9.7% undecided. Margin for error is 5%. Rudy has picked up endorsements from Diane Middleton and Louis Dominguez, both primary rivals. Stay tuned...

CALPEEK'S ETCETERA: POLITICAL SHORT TAKES.

Editor's note: Here are a few political items worth noting...

- **Farr Clear Favorite in 17th C.D.** - CA Assemblyman Sam Farr(D-Carmel) continues to be the odds on favorite to capture the vacated 17th Congressional District seat that once belonged to Leon Panetta. A recent survey for Farr by Fairbank, Maslin & Maullin shows Farr leading by a margin of 49% to 26%. The special will be held June 8th. Farr's Republican challenger is Bill McCampbell. FYI: Salinas attorney Bill Monning, who finished 2nd in the primary, has been telling his supporters that regardless of what happens June 8, he's taking a serious look at challenging Farr for the Demo nomination in 1994...

- **Central Valley's 1st Hispanic Lawmaker** - CALPEEK goofed a few weeks back when we said that new Demo Assemblyman Cruz Bustamante of Fresno was the 1st Hispanic lawmaker from the Central Valley. The 1st Hispanic elected from the Central Valley was Assemblyman Ray Gonzalez(D-Bakersfield). Gonzalez was defeated for reelection in 1974 by then college professor Bill Thomas, now a congressman...

- **Lempert Leads for Supe Spot** - Former Demo Assemblyman Ted Lempert is regarded as almost a shoo-in to replace Anna Eshoo on the San Mateo Co. Board of Supes - District 3. The election is set for June 8th. Lempert does have five challengers, and at one point some insiders thought conservative Jim Bosse might have some potential, but no longer. So far, Lempert hasn't done much and interest in this entire race is very low. Stay tuned...

PANEL TO FOCUS ON WOMEN IN BUSINESS ISSUES.

The L.A. Current Affairs Forum will present a panel discussion on Minority/Women Business Enterprise Programs, beginning at 7:45 a.m. (continental breakfast) and concluding at 10 a.m., May 25, Hyatt Regency Hotel, downtown L.A. Moderator is atty. Lisa Specht, with panelists Angelica Martinez of Cordoba Corp., Norman Ross Jr. of Parson Brinckerhoff, Paul Suzuki of Suzuki & Ito, and John Murray, L.A. Bd. of Public Works Commissioner. For info, Emma Schafer (310) 445-8862...

CA INITIATIVE UPDATE: DEADLINE SCHEDULE

Editor's note: Here is a schedule of those CA statutes and constitutional amendments now in circulation and the deadlines for submitting petitions to qualify for the June 1994 ballot...

<u>Initiative Name</u>	<u>Due Date</u>	<u>Const. Amend or Statute</u>
Attorneys Fees	5/28/93	S
Preamble	7/29/93	CA
State Budget	9/20/93	CA

● **School Voucher Initiative Update** - So far, this is the only measure to qualify for the June 1994 ballot. The official name is "Education. Parental Choice. Scholarship." The proponents are led by Joseph Ali-brandi, chairman of the Whittaker Corporation, who also chairs ExCEL - Choice In Education League...

...In recent months, the NO on Vouchers Cmt. has done some reorganizing and has named Nelson Communications, with consultant Bob Nelson, to lead the NO campaign. Nelson has turned to a longtime friend and former employee, Rick Manter, to handle the day-to-day operations. If Manter's name sounds familiar, it's because he was the daily manager for Bruce Herschensohn's 1992 U.S. Senate campaign. Also, Manter and Nelson worked together in 1990 on the NO on 134 campaign (alcohol surtax measure). FYI: The formal name for the NO side is, "The Cmt. to Educate Against the Voucher." It's anticipated that Nelson's Sacto office (Donna Lucas & Steve Swatt) also will be involved. FYI: **rumors** about a special fall election for this measure are once again making the rounds...

● **"State Budget"** is the official name of a constitutional amendment proposing that the governor and

State legislature forfeit their salaries, travel and living expenses from July 1 until a budget is enacted. Proponent Dale E. Stocking of Californians for Budget Reform (209)943-1996, has until Sept. 20 to collect 615,958 signatures.

INTERNAT'L WEAPONS TRADE TOPIC OF PANEL...

Women United for Peace will sponsor a panel discussion about international trade of weapons, 1 p.m., May 23 at the University Synagogue, West L.A. Admission is \$10. Panelist scheduled to appear include U.S. Rep. Pat Schroeder and Rear Adm. Eugene Carroll Jr. (Ret.). For info & RSVPs (310)458-2694...

NEW JOBS, ADDRESSES AND PERSONNEL NOTICES.

Editor's note: Here are some items to mark down in your notebook...

● Michael Bogert has opened his own law firm in Sacto at 400 Capitol Mall, Ste. 1800, Sacto 95814 (916)448-9160. He was most recently counsel to the GOP Assembly leader...

● Michael Peevey, the retired president of So. Calif. Edison Co., has joined Winner/Wagner & Associates as the Of Counsel. Prior to this move, Peevey was the founding chairman of CALSTART, a public/private partnership to develop electric cars. Peevey also will work with affiliated firms of W/W, including the govt. relations office in D.C. and the political campaign office in L.A. He'll be HQed at W/W's L.A. office...

● Donna Lucas, president of Nelson & Lucas Communications, has been named to the Board of Directors of the Amer. Assn. of Political Consultants (AAPC)...

● Name change: next time you call the press office of the CA Sec. of State's office, don't panic if they answer the phone with "Legislative & Constituent Services." That's the new name of their department. (916)445-6375...

● The Sacto office of Stoorza, Ziegaus & Metzger has won two awards from the Sacto Public Relations Assn. A gold "Cappie Award" went to SZ&M for work on the Education Coalition of CA and a silver "Cappie Award" was presented for work on behalf of MacMillan Bloedel...